



POLICY

230 Public Performances by Students

POLICY NUMBER	ADOPTED	REVISED	LAST REVIEWED
230	7/23/2002	8/26/2008	6/12/2018
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Purpose

The Board recognizes the educational and community value of students sharing their talents, skills and learning through school-sponsored public performances. Such opportunities shall support the educational program and protect student safety, access and well-being.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, public performance means a school-sponsored presentation, exhibition, production, concert, ceremony, competition, demonstration or similar event in which students perform or present before an audience outside the regular classroom setting, whether on or off district property.

School-sponsored means approved, supervised or represented by the district or a district school, program, course, activity or organization.

Authority

The Board authorizes school-sponsored public performances when they provide an appropriate educational or cocurricular experience, are compatible with other school activities, and can be conducted with reasonable safeguards for student health, safety, dignity and well-being.

Public performances shall comply with applicable law, Board policy and district procedures relating to student supervision, attendance, transportation, accessibility, student records and privacy, use of facilities, fundraising and financial activity.

Participation shall not be conditioned on payment of an unauthorized fee or on the student's or family's ability to purchase special clothing, equipment or other items. The district may establish reasonable program requirements and may provide alternatives or assistance when appropriate.

Delegation of Responsibility

School-sponsored public performances shall be approved in advance by the building principal or designee. Recurring performances conducted as part of an established course, activity or annual program may be approved collectively on an annual basis, with additional review when material circumstances change.

Guidelines

When a public performance is a stated requirement of a course taken for credit, students and parents/guardians shall receive advance notice of the participation expectations. Absences shall be addressed under Policy 204 and applicable attendance procedures. When warranted by disability, health, religious, safety or other legally protected considerations, the district shall evaluate reasonable accommodations or an appropriate alternative assignment.

For cocurricular or extracurricular performances, participation shall be voluntary unless a participation expectation has been clearly established as a condition of membership and communicated before the student joins the activity.

Students and employees shall not personally receive compensation for a school-sponsored public performance unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent or designee and permitted by law, Board policy, collective bargaining agreements and district procedures. Approved payments, honoraria or donations shall be processed through district accounts or authorized student activity accounts.

The district shall protect students from exploitation, inappropriate commercial use, unreasonable demands, unsafe conditions and unauthorized use of student names, images, recordings or creative work. Publicity, recording, broadcasting and commercial sponsorship shall comply with applicable law, Board policy and parent/guardian permissions.

The district may modify, postpone or cancel a performance when necessary because of safety, weather, transportation, staffing, legal, operational or educational concerns.

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

COMMENCED:

REVISED:

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION FOR POLICY 230 PUBLIC PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS

Purpose

This administrative regulation establishes consistent procedures for reviewing, approving and supervising school-sponsored public performances by students.

Approval Request

The staff sponsor shall submit an annual request to the building principal or designee for recurring performances associated with an established course, activity or program. A separate request shall be submitted for a new or substantially different performance, or when material changes warrant additional review. Requests shall be provided sufficiently in advance to permit appropriate planning and shall include, as applicable:

1. Purpose and educational or cocurricular connection.
2. Date, time, location, duration and sponsoring organization.
3. Participating students, staff sponsors and proposed adult supervision.
4. Transportation, accessibility, health, security and emergency considerations.
5. Expected costs, fundraising, ticketing, compensation, donations or sponsorship.
6. Parent/guardian notice and permission requirements.
7. Recording, livestreaming, photography, publicity or media participation.
8. Potential conflicts with instruction, assessments or other scheduled activities.

Administrative Review

- The principal or designee shall determine whether the performance supports the educational program or an approved student activity.
- Approval shall consider student safety, supervision, instructional impact, transportation, site conditions, accessibility, cost, legal requirements and consistency with Board policy.
- The principal may consult district administration, Safety and Security, Operations, Transportation, Student Services, Communications, the school nurse or legal counsel when appropriate.
- Approval may include reasonable conditions and may be withdrawn if material circumstances change or required conditions are not met.

Participation and Notice

Students and parents/guardians shall receive timely information regarding the performance, participation expectations, schedule, location, transportation, attire, costs, supervision and any special conditions.

Parent/guardian permission shall be obtained when required by Board policy, district procedure, the nature or location of the event, transportation arrangements, recording or publicity plans, or student health and safety considerations.

A course-based performance requirement shall be communicated in the course description, syllabus or other advance notice when practicable. A student requesting an accommodation or alternative shall be referred to the appropriate administrator and student services personnel for individualized review.

Supervision and Student Safety

1. Designate an employee sponsor to supervise students and ensure compliance with the approved plan.
2. Use reasonable procedures to account for students before departure, throughout the event, and at release or return.
3. Provide supervision appropriate to the students' ages, group size, setting, travel arrangements, and identified risks.
4. Plan in advance for student health needs, medications, accessibility, and emergency contacts.
5. Address sensory, environmental, and behavioral factors that may affect student comfort, participation, or self-regulation.
6. Follow district emergency procedures and promptly report injuries, incidents, or significant departures from the approved plan.
7. Release students only through approved arrangements communicated to their families.

Transportation and Travel

District transportation shall be used when required by Board policy or district procedure. Any alternative transportation arrangement must receive advance administrative approval and comply with applicable permission, insurance and student release requirements. Overnight or extended travel shall also comply with Policy 121 and related procedures.

Content, Student Dignity and Accessibility

Performance content, costuming, staging and student assignments shall be age-appropriate, educationally suitable and consistent with Board policy. Staff shall avoid assignments that unnecessarily expose a student to humiliation, exploitation, unsafe conditions or disclosure of confidential information.

The district shall provide access and reasonable accommodations as required by law. Staff shall consult appropriate student services personnel when a student's disability, health plan or language access needs may affect participation.

Recording, Publicity and Student Information

- Use of student names, images, recordings or creative work shall comply with district permissions, student-record requirements and communications procedures.
- Livestreaming, commercial recording or distribution beyond ordinary school communications requires advance administrative approval.

- Outside media requests shall be referred to the district Communications Office or other designated administrator.
- Student contact information and other nonpublic information shall not be disclosed without authorization.

Financial Activity, Compensation and Sponsorship

1. All ticket sales, donations, honoraria, fundraising and expenditures shall be processed through district-approved accounts and procedures.
2. Students and employees may not personally retain payment for representing the school or district unless specifically authorized.
3. Commercial sponsorship, advertising or use of a performance to promote an outside entity requires advance approval.
4. No agreement may obligate the district or grant rights to recordings, names, logos or student work without authorized review and approval.

Attendance and Missed Instruction

Staff shall minimize loss of instructional time and coordinate student absences in advance. Students remain responsible for missed work under applicable school procedures. Participation in an approved performance shall be recorded consistently with district attendance procedures.

Cancellation or Modification

The principal, Superintendent or designee may modify, postpone or cancel a performance because of weather, transportation, staffing, safety, public health, legal, operational or educational concerns. The staff sponsor shall communicate changes promptly to affected students and families.

Post-Event Responsibilities

- Account for participating students and district property.
- Submit receipts, deposits and financial records promptly.
- Document injuries, safety incidents or significant concerns.
- Review the event when practical to identify needed improvements for future performances.